

STATE BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

TOPEKA, KANSAS

July 9, 1929

Mr. Henry C. Groseclose,  
State Board of Education,  
Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Groseclose:

I am enclosing herewith our application for a charter in the Future Farmer organization. You will recall that several days ago I sent you a copy of our state constitution, copy of our state program of work, a list of the local chapters, and a check for five dollars to cover cost of issuing charter.

In case we have not met all requirements, please kindly advise us. Our list of local chapters is growing from day to day and we anticipate something like thirty or forty chapters by the time school opens in September.

Very sincerely yours,

*Lester B. Pollon*

Supervisor, Vocational Agriculture.

LP:R  
Enc.

STATE BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

TOPEKA, KANSAS

June 27, 1929

#16

Mr. Henry Groseclose,  
State Department of Education,  
Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Groseclose:

Enclosed find check for five dollars together with the state program of work of the Future Farmers of Kansas and a list of the local chapters of the state.

Our petition is making the rounds of the officers for their signatures but will not be mailed to this office in time to reach you by July 1st. We are hopeful we can come under the wire in submitting enclosed material. The official petition will reach you at the earliest possible moment.

While the list includes only eleven chapters, we anticipate at least 40 chapters by the opening of school next fall.

If in any way we have failed to meet requirements, do not hesitate to advise us.

Sincerely yours,

*Lester B. Pollon*

Supervisor, Vocational Agriculture.

LP:R  
Enc.

THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

APPLICATION FOR CHARTER

#16  
(not sent)

To Henry C. Groseclose,  
State Board of Education  
Richmond, Virginia

We, ... **Boyd Waite** ....., President, ... **Lee Kaff** ....., Secretary;  
and ... **W.E. Grimes** ....., Adviser, officers of the State organization  
known as ... **Future Farmers of Kansas** ..... a State organization  
for students of vocational agriculture, having at present ... **Eleven** .....  
chapters and ... **204** ..... members, and being empowered to act for this  
number  
organization, do hereby make application to be chartered as branch of  
the "Future Farmers of America".

We are attaching to this application (1) the proposed State  
constitution and by-laws under which we desire to work; (2) a copy of  
our State program of work for the year; (3) a list of all local chapters  
and a statement of the total membership of each; and (4) a check for  
\$5.00, to cover cost of issuing charter.

The names and addresses of our State officers are as follows:

President...	<b>Boyd Waite</b> .....	<b>Winfield, Kansas</b> .....	<b>Future Farmer.</b>
	name	address	grade of membership
.....			
Vice-Pres...	<b>Elvin Ruefner</b> .....	<b>Abilene</b> .....	<b>Future Farmer.</b>
Secretary...	<b>Lee Kaff</b> .....	<b>Carbondale</b> .....	<b>Future Farmer..</b>
Treasurer...	<b>(same)</b> .....		
Reporter...	<b>Robert Paige</b> .....	<b>Manhattan</b> .....	<b>Future Farmer.</b>
Adviser ..	<b>W.E. Grimes</b> .....		

If granted a charter, we promise to comply with the national  
constitution and by-laws of the Future Farmers of America and to work  
for the success of the organization.

We certify that the information given in this application and  
attached hereto is correct.

Signed: ... **Boyd Waite** .....  
State President  
... **Lee W. Kaff** .....  
State Secretary  
... **W.E. Grimes** .....  
State Adviser

**Lester B. Pollock**

LIST OF LOCAL FUTURE FARMER CHAPTERS OF KANSAS.  
June 27, 1929

Name of Chapter:	Membership:
Abilene	33
Alma	26
Beloit	15
Carbondale	11
Chanute	14
Garden City	15
Kingman	15
Mankato	9
Mound City	17
Washington	18
Winfield	31
	<hr/>
Total - - -	204

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STATE PROGRAM OF WORK OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF KANSAS

1. To establish seventy-five local chapters of future farmers.
2. To encourage and promote vocational agriculture in Kansas.
3. To send 500 Future Farmers to the National Vocational Agriculture Congress at Kansas City.
4. To send a dairy judging team to the National Vocational Agriculture Dairy Judging Contest at St. Louis.
5. To send an Animal Husbandry Judging team to the National Vocational Agriculture Animal Judging Contest at Kansas City.
6. To hold an annual state convention and business meeting of Future Farmers at Manhattan.
7. To support the annual State Future Farmer Judging Contest at Manhattan.

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

*Kansas.*

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Constitution

Article I. Name and Purposes of the Organization.

Sec. A. The name of this organization shall be the Future Farmers of America. Members and local chapters are hereinafter referred to as the F.F.A.'s.

Sec. B. The purposes for which this organization is formed are as follows:

1. To promote vocational education in agriculture in the public schools of the United States.
2. To create more interest in the intelligent choice of farming occupations.
3. To create and nurture a love of country life.
4. To encourage recreational and educational activities for students in vocational agriculture.
5. To promote thrift.
6. To encourage cooperative effort among students of vocational agriculture.
7. To strengthen the confidence of the farm boy in himself and his work.
8. To promote scholarship among students of vocational agriculture.
9. To develop rural leadership.

Article II. Organization.

Sec. A. The Future Farmers of America is a national organization of affiliated State organizations which are composed of local chapters in schools having organized instruction in vocational agriculture under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes Act.

Sec. B. Local Future Farmers of America chapters shall not be established in schools where organized instruction in vocational agriculture is not given under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes Act.

Sec. C. Delegates from local chapters shall meet in State convention, organize, adopt a State constitution not in con-

flict with the national constitution, elect officers, set up a program of work, and then apply to the national executive secretary for membership in the national organization. Upon receipt of a charter the State organizations and the members thereof may then be known as Future Farmers of America.

### Article III. Membership.

- Sec. A. Membership in this organization shall be active, associate, and honorary.
- Sec. B. Active membership. Any student of vocational agriculture, who is regularly enrolled in a part-time, day-unit, or all-day class, is entitled to active membership in Future Farmers of America organizations upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting. A member may retain his active membership for three years after completing his systematic instruction in vocational agriculture.
- Sec. C. Associate membership. Any former student of vocational agriculture may be elected to associate membership upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting. Any former active member of a Future Farmers of America chapter may be elected to associate membership upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting.
- Sec. D. Honorary membership. Instructors, school principals, superintendents, business men, and others who are helping to promote vocational agriculture may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting.

### Article IV. Membership Grades and Privileges.

- Sec. A. There shall be four grades of memberships based upon achievement. These grades are (1) Green hand, (2) Future Farmer, (3) State farmer, and (4) American farmer. (These terms to be used until approved or modified by the First National Congress.)
- Sec. B. "Green hand." Qualifications for election.
1. Fourteen years of age.
  2. Be regularly enrolled in a class in vocational agriculture.
  3. Possess facilities for and have a satisfactory program of supervised practice.
  4. Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting of the local chapter of Future Farmers of America.

Sec. C. "Future Farmer." Qualifications for election.

1. Satisfactory completion of at least one year in vocational agriculture, including a program of supervised practice.
2. Earn and deposit in a bank, or otherwise productively invest at least \$25.

Note. Any modification of (2) above must be approved by the State adviser.

3. Be regularly enrolled in vocational agriculture with an amplified supervised practice program.
4. Recite from memory the Future Farmers of America creed.
5. Be able to lead a group discussion for ten minutes.
6. Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regular local chapter meeting of Future Farmers of America.

Sec. D. "State farmer degree." Qualifications for election.

The qualifications for election are left to the various State organizations. The following qualifications are simply suggestive:

1. At least two years of systematic instruction in vocational agriculture with an outstanding supervised practice program in operation.
2. Pass some occupational test supplied by the State staff.
3. Earn and deposit in a bank, or productively invest at least \$200. This may include the 25 dollars saved while advancing to the grade of "Future Farmer."
4. Be familiar with parliamentary procedure by having held office in the local chapter, or by having passed a satisfactory test in parliamentary procedure.
5. Be able to lead a group discussion for forty minutes.
6. Make the school judging team, debating team, or some other team representing the school.
7. Show marked attainment in scholarship in all school subject (grade 85 or above).
8. Possess qualities of leadership as shown by having held responsible positions in connection with student and chapter activities.
9. Each State shall be entitled to elect 10 qualified in-



dividuals but where the State membership exceeds 500, not more than 2 per cent of the total State membership may be elected, fractions counted to the nearest whole number. Only copies of written records of achievement verified by the local adviser shall be submitted to the State Adviser by the local executive committee at least one month prior to the State convention. The Adviser will then review the records and submit his findings to the State Executive Committee. This committee will nominate at the regular State convention the candidates who have been found most worthy to receive the honor.

Synopses of these records shall then be read by a member of the Executive Committee when the students are nominated. The delegates shall then proceed to elect to the "Third Degree" the number of candidates to which the State is entitled.

Sec. E. "American farmer." Qualifications for election.

1. Hold the degree of "State farmer."
2. Be engaged in a farming occupation or have definite plans for becoming a farmer.
3. Possess demonstrated ability to farm by having conducted an outstanding program of supervised practice throughout the period of vocational training.
4. Earn and deposit in a bank or otherwise productively invest at least \$500.

Note. - In cases where the applicant had assisted in the support of dependents the amount so expended, in the judgment of the National Board of Trustees, may be considered as an investment.

5. Possess demonstrated ability to work with others by having participated in some agricultural cooperative enterprise or movement.
6. Be recommended by the National Board of Trustees and receive a majority vote of the delegates present at a National Congress of Future Farmers of America.

Sec. F. Associate and honorary members shall not vote nor shall they hold any office except that of Adviser in the State and local organizations, and that of Executive Secretary-Treasurer and Adviser in the National Organization. Exceptions to this provision are permitted during the first two years of a chapter's existence.

Sec. G. Only members who have been elected to the grade of "American farmer" are eligible to hold national offices after 1930. One year after the (State) organization has been

chartered all (State) officers shall have attained the "State farmer" degree. Officers in the local chapters must not rank lower than the grade of "Future farmer" after the organization has been established in any given school for one year or longer.

Sec. H. Associate and honorary members are eligible to election to any degree provided they have done outstanding work in promoting vocational agriculture and the organization of Future Farmers of America.

#### Article V. Officers.

Sec. A. The officers of the national organization shall be a president, four vice presidents (one from each administrative region of the United States) secretary, executive secretary-treasurer, and an adviser. These officers shall perform the usual duties of their respective offices and shall constitute the Board of Trustees of the national organization. They shall have full authority and control over organization, subject only to such regulations and by-laws as may be adopted by the National Congress of Future Farmers of America. The officers of the national organization shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the delegates present at the National Congress of Future Farmers of America. Each State is entitled to representation by two delegates to the National Congress.

Sec. B. The officers of the State organization shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, adviser and reporter. These State officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the delegates present at a regular State convention of Future Farmers of America.

Sec. C. 1. Each local chapter shall be entitled to two delegates to the State convention.

2. Officers of the local chapter shall be elected annually at a regular meeting of the local chapter.

#### Article VI. Meetings.

Sec. A. A meeting of the National Congress of Future Farmers of America shall be held annually. The time and place shall be determined by the National Board of Trustees.

Sec. B. The several State conventions shall be held annually and at least 30 days prior to the meeting of the National Congress of the Future Farmers of America at a time and place to be determined by the State Executive Committee.

Sec. C. Local chapters shall hold their meetings monthly or oftener throughout the calendar year and at such time and place as may be decided upon by the Executive Committee of the local chapter.

## Article VII. Dues.

- Sec. A. Active membership dues in the national organization shall be fixed by the National Board of Trustees on the basis of a budget submitted by said Trustees and approved by the Adviser and Executive Secretary and a majority vote of the delegates present in the National Congress of Future Farmers of America.
- Sec. B. Membership dues in State organizations shall be fixed by the State Executive Committee, subject to approval by a majority vote of the delegates present at the State convention of Future Farmers of America.
- Sec. C. The dues of any local chapter shall be fixed by a majority vote of the membership of that chapter.

## Article VIII. Amendments.

- Sec. A. Amendments to the national constitution shall be submitted in writing at any annual meeting of the National Congress. These amendments must be submitted by the National Board of Trustees. State organizations may submit amendments to the National Board of Trustees who shall in turn submit them to the National Congress with recommendations. Amendments may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.
- Sec. B. By-laws may be adopted to fit the needs of any State organization, providing they are not in conflict with the State or national constitution. The national constitution may be the constitution for all State organizations and local chapters. Flexibility may be obtained through by-laws for each State organization and local chapter.

## Article IX. Insignia.

- Sec. A. The insignia of the Future Farmers of America shall be made up of four symbols, namely, (1) the plow, representing tillage of the soil, the basis of modern agriculture; (2) the owl, representing wisdom; (3) the rising sun, representing progress; and (4) cross section of an ear of corn, representing common agricultural interests, since corn is native to America and grown in every State. The insignia shall carry the three letters "F.F.A."
- Sec. B. All active, associate, and honorary members shall be entitled to wear the insignia. All "Green hands" are entitled to wear a bronze insignia. All "Future farmers" are entitled to wear a gold insignia. All members elected to the degree of "State farmer" are entitled to wear the gold insignia on a rectangular key base. All members elected to the degree of "American farmer" are entitled to wear the gold insignia directly mounted on a key.